

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 31, 2012

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Please accept this letter in support of Alabama Governor Bentley's request for a major disaster declaration as the result of severe weather that struck Alabama on January 23, 2012. This extreme weather included severe storms, flooding, hail, straight line winds, and tornadoes.


Governor Bentley has declared a state of emergency under state law and state and local officials are coordinating the response and cleanup. The Alabama Emergency Management Agency has provided us with the details of the extensive property damage, numerous injuries, and deaths. The Governor has also communicated to us that the severity and magnitude is beyond the capabilities of the State and affected local governments. As you know, Alabama was struck by a series of tornadoes that were among the worst in the state's history in April and these most recent storms have only caused further strain on state and local resources.


Thus, under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5208 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR §206.36, we respectfully request that you declare an expedited major disaster for the State of Alabama as a result of tornadoes, high winds, flooding, and severe storms that impacted areas of the State on January 23, 2012.

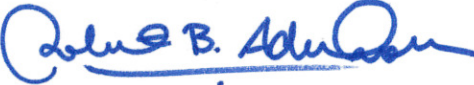
Thank you for your consideration of this request as Alabama recovers from these severe events.

Sincerely,



Richard Shelby
U.S. Senate



Jeff Sessions
U.S. Senate



Spencer Bachus
Member of Congress

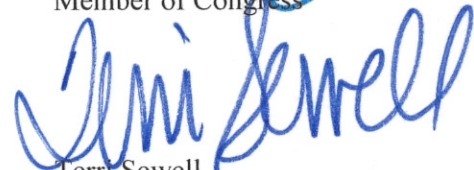

Robert Aderholt
Member of Congress


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